# TROUBLE WITH THE TARIFF. ANXIOUS FREE TRADERS

EFFORTS TO DISCOVER REPUBLICAN PLANE -WHAT IS A "CONFERENCE"?

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 Special)-The free tre leaders in the House have "a peck of trouble" on hand. They are unable to obtain any satisfactory information as to what the Republicans intend to do and the shadow of Randall overhangs them. do and the shadow of Randali overnangs them.

In order probably to provoke expressions from Republicans, various reports are set affoat. A sample of these may be found in "The Star" of presterday. It reads as follows:

A conference between a number of Republicans was held last night, at which there was a general discus-

A conference between a number of Republicans was held last night, at which there was a general discussion of the President's message and of the policy of the party. A member who was present expressed the opinion to a "star" reporter that "they, except, probably, two or three members," would all act together and follow it or leader. Both parties are feeling about them on all sides with great caution, and the instribution and them on all sides with great caution, and the instribution are members are keeping their own counsel more than usual. Generally the Republicans have been able to find out about how Mr. Randall would stand, and could make their calculation accordingly. But he is entirely non-committat mow, and they can make nothing out of him. If the tariff debate is got up in the fluore early, the Democrats will get their opponents at a greater disadvantage than they would it they were given more time, and therefore it is the fur pose of the Ways and Means Committee to get ready for the fight as soor as possible.

Their chances for goiting a bill through depend much upon promptness. The reason the resolution referring the President's message to the Ways and Means Committee passed through the House yesterday without provoking the expected discussion of the message, was that the Republicans were not prepared to enter into such a discussion.

It is believed by the leaders that they will be able before long to agree upon a line of policy which will before long to agree upon a line of policy which will before long to agree upon a line of policy which will before long to agree upon a line of policy which will before long to agree upon a line of policy which will before long to agree upon a line of policy which will before long to agree upon a line of policy which will before long to agree upon a line of policy which will before long to agree upon a line of policy which will before long to agree upon a line of policy which will before long to agree upon a line of policy which will before long to agree upon a line o

ed no such agreement.

place. It has become the fushion of certain free rude newspapers to call a mere incidental converbrode newspapers to call a mere incidental conversation of two or three Republicans "a conference," and in that sense there may have been a "conference" Wednesday night. The paragraph is at fault in another particular. The Republicans are not worried about Mr. Randall. They know where he stands, as does everybody who has taken the trouble to read his public utterances. Whether the Democrats shall be able to show a united front on revenue questions will depend wholly apon whether Mr. Mills and his followers surrender to the Pennsylvanian and his followers. The latter will not yield an inch—it would be worse than folly for them to do so when they hold the key of the situation.

key of the situation.
No. it is not the Republicans who are in a state No. it is not the Republicans who are in a state of nervousness and uncertainty; it is the dominant Democratic faction of which Chairman Mills is the leader. That faction cannot hope that either the Republicans or Mr. Randall will accept a revenue bill which is the handlwork of Mills and his colleagues of the Ways and Means Committee. It is whichered that the chairman has and his colleagues of the Ways and Means Committee. It is whispered that the chairman has been already forced to the conclusion that the "ad valorem" bill upon which he spentso much time, must be abandoned. It's a pity.

WHO WILL BE THE FISH COMMISSIONER? CANDIDATE FERGUSON AND HIS VALUABLE SER-VICES TO THE COMMISSION AS A YACRT OWNER.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13, (Special.-The declination of Mr. Goode to serve as United States Com-missioner of Fish and Fisheries has aroused much interest on the part of the intimate personal friends of the late Commissioner Professor Baird. It is aroused by the candidacy of Major T. B. Ferwho has been exhibiting a letter that he ared from Professor Baird last Spring, in which the Professor urges the President to appoint him (Ferguson) as his successor in case the question arises. This candidate is one who is well known to the several specialists of the Fish Commission as a man who does not possess the leat intellectual capacity whatever. In the early years of the work of the Commission when Professor Baird began his labors in a modest manner and with work of the Commission—when Professor Baird began his labors in a modest manner and with small annual appropriations from Congress, Major Ferguson, who, as the son-in-law of the late Governor Swann, of Baltimore, was then State Fish Commissioner of Maryland, gave the United States Fish Commissioner valuable aid by tendering the ase of his private steam yacht, and in several other equally effective channels. For this handsome service, Professor Baird was anturally grateful, and made Ferguson his assistant. Then as the work of the Commission grew, and into its growth Professor Baird called in srecialists in the several branches of economic and technical ichthyology, is these gentlemen made progress, they all came into conflict with Ferguson, whom they found anable to understand or even appreciate their work. Rather than wound the feelings of Professor Bairl, who felt bound, out of regard for past services, to retain Ferguson, they usually kept silent, or else resigned quietly and found empleyment elsewhere, knowing that Profssor Baird as in feeble he ith and that any undue excitement or worry might cause him serious illness.

The appointment of Professor Goode by the President apparently settled everything all right. Then it became evident to Mr. Goode that the extra duties thus devolved upon him, would destroy his health utterly; and he was compelled to inform the President that he could not accept the charge. Then the difficulty of getting a good man to take his burden without compensation as Professor Baird had done, was removed by the passage of the Hale Bill yesterday. This provides for an annual salary of five thousand dollars.

Now, among the several candidates urging their claims, reappears the candidate Ferguson with the letter above mentioned. The friends of Professor Baird knew that the letter was written in one of these extreme feeble intervals that characterized the last official efforts of the late honored Commissioner, and they regard it as a letter unworth-liv beerged from a generous man under cir

he last official efforts of the late honored Com-hissioner, and they regard it as a letter unworth-by begged from a generous man under efroum-lances that need not be defined. They declare hat many matters, which relate to the official record of Ferguson will be at once made the sub-ect of a Congressional investigation if he be an-ointed and that the result cannot be good or any ray be else than positively harmful to the future ord results of the Commission. In short, it will good results of the Commission. In short, it will order the removal of this man after a long exhib-ition of his positive incompetence has been made GRIEVANCES OF AMERICAN FISHERMEN. CANADA'S SEIZURE OF AMERICAN SEINES AT THE

GREAT LAKES-THE TALSMA AS A TEST CASE. Washington, Jan. 13 (Special).—Congressman Chipman has presented to Secretary Bayard the grievances of American fishermen along the Great Lakes who claim that Canadian officials are preventing them from fishing in Canadian waters and in border streams which have always been regarded as debatable ground. They present as a est case the recent seizure by Fish Commissioner Marx, of Canada, of seines and fishing apparatus valued at \$20,000 owned by Mr. Telsma, one of the most prominent fishermen on the Lakes, with headquarters at Detroit. These had been in use at the mouth of the St. Mary's River and had slightly encroached on Canadan waters. The entire outfit was confiscated, and Talsma has thus far received no satisfaction from Canadan water. far received no satisfaction from Canadian author-lities. Secretary Bayard at once communicated with the British officials, protesting against the

is probable that the matter will eventually It is probable that the matter will eventually have to be considered by the Fisheries Commission now in session here, for the extensive lake fishing trade are not so anxions to secure an adjudication of the Talsma case as they are to have it serve as a test case by which the use of the boundary fisheries of the Lakes, worth millions of dollars, may be perpetually settled. It was in anticipation of some such boundary fishing dispute and particularly to look after the interests of the Great Lakes that Mr. Angell was chosen a member of the Fisheries Commission. He is personally familiar with the locality of the Talsma seizure and with most of the debatable fishing grounds along the Great Lakes and rivers.

A BATCH OF CONTESTED ELECTIONS. WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Special).-The House Committee on Elections to-day held a meeting to map out a programme. A curious incident was the appearance before the committee of one A. E. Redstone, of California, who, it appears, was a candidate for Congress in the Vth District
The seat of Felton, the sitting member, is contested
by Sullivan Democrat. Mr. Redstone, who seems
to have been the candidate of the Prohibitionists,
the Greenbackers, the Labor men, and so forth,
demanded that he should be allowed to interplead
in this contest, and presented a memorial in
support of his claim to the seat. There were about
33,060 votes cast in the district, of which Redstone received 470. In his memorial he sets
forth that Mr. Felton was a candidate of the ring
Republicans and that Sullivan was the candidate
of the ring Democrats, and that as a matter of fact,
the only honest votes east in the district were the
470 for himself. The committee was ungenerous
enough to refuse to allow Mr. Redstone to appear
to prosecute his claims as a contestant.

The contests will be taken up, as far as determined, in the following order: Thobe against
Carlisle Jan. 14: Lowy against White, of Indiana,
Jan. 17: McDuffic against Davidson, of Alabama,
Jan. 21: Worthington against Post, of Illinois,
Jan. 22: Following these in the order named
will be taken up the cases of Frank against Glover,
Maine: Lynch against Van Devere, California,
Smalls against Ellott, South Carolina and Sullivan
against Felton, California. candidate for Congress in the Vth District

GEN. BLACK WANTS FIFTY MORE CLERKS. Washington, Jan. 13. (special).-Hardly a bureport of any Department of the work of failed to set forth that a great deal more work had been accomplished with fewer clerks

than under any preceeding Administration, and in many cases it was stated that all arrearings had been cleared away, and yet when the regular estimates came to Congress it was found that in nearly every bureau was an increase of force and appropriations demanded. The Pension Bureau was no exception. Besides the increase asked in the regular estimates the Commissioner has now requested 50 additional clerks, to be employed until the expiration of the present term of Congress. This request is based on "the immense amount of extra work imposed upon the present force by the calls of members of Congress regarding pension claims." This is the first time in the history of the Pension Bureau that an emergency appropriation of this sort has been asked.

"PREMIER" MILLS WAXES INDIGNANT. HE PROVOKES A DEMOCRATIC SQUABBLE-THE

HOUSE WOULDN'T ADJOURN AT HIS REQUEST. WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Special)—The sensibili-ties of the Republicans in the House were deeply and painfully stirred late this afternoon by another exhibition of a lack of harmony on the Democratic side. It seems that early in the day a number of members went to "Premier" Mills and asked him if there would be a session to-morrow. He assured them that there would not be. Towards

him if there would be a session to-morrow. He assured them that there would not be. Towards dinner time, therefore, the "Premier" rose and moved that when the House adjourn, it would be to meet on Monday.

Now Chairman Hatch, of the Committee on Agriculture, had reported the bill to make an appropriation to carry out the law of last session granting Government aid to agricultural experiment stations in the several States. He arose and asked if Mr. Mills would not withdraw the motion, and stated that it was the desire of the friends of the Agricultural bill to dispose of it to-morrow. Mr. Mills declined, whereupen Mr. Hatch, who is rather quick tempered, expressed the hope that the friends of the bill would vote down Mr. Mills's motion. This made the latter extremely angry, and his temper was not improved when his motion was rejected.

The Hepublicans were anxious to proceed with the public business, and they voted solidly with Chairman Hatch.

"Premier" Mills was furious when he arose to a personal explanation—so furious that he was not eareful in his choice of expressions. He went on to say that several gentlemen had come to him to ask whether there would be a session to-morrow, and that he pledged himself to adjourn the House. Upon this, of course, the Republicans raised an uproar and Mills was unable to proceed. Indeed, S. S. Cox. who was in the chair, quickly perceived that Mr. Mills was out of order, and rapped him down.

Mr. Hatch and other friends of the bill under

Mr. Hatch and other friends of the bill under Mr. Hatch and other friends of the bill their the circumstances thought that Mr. Millis's pledge should be redeemed, and unanimous consent was asked for an understanding to have no session to-morrow. Mills stood by his colors like the brave Texan he is, however, and declared that if nobody else would object he should do so, and he did. The House then proceeded with other business.

he did. The House that business.

Mills and Hatch both cooled off, as quickly as Mills and Hatch both cooled on, as quest, as they had become superheated, and then the former renewe! his motion for an adjournment until Monday, which was carried by a small majority. The whole performance was grotesque in the externe, and Mills painfully showed that as a porliamentary letder the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee is likely to prove a dead failure.

### AMATEURS AT A GUN FACTORY.

OVEL METROD OF WITHDRAWING A BREECH BLOCK THAT STUCK FAST IN A 10-INCH GUN.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The experiences of the
Naval Bureau of Ordnance in its efforts toward the development of a gun foundry at the Navy Yard here are not encouraging. Last summer a bar in its muzzle, and three weeks ago an accident occurred to the new 10-inch gun which the Board pooh-poohed as a matter of no consequence. It now appears that the sticking of the breech block in this gun, due to the ignorance of an inexperienced foreman, is more serious than was at first supposed, and, though the gun may not be spoiled the block, which could also a supposed and the gun may not be on ins motion, and the motion was relacted very ingun was ruined by the breaking of the boring first supposed, and, though the gun may not be spoiled the block, which cost about \$1,000 will not be fit for use. The 10-inch gun is about thirty feet long, and four feet in diameter at the

not be fit for use. The 10-inch gun is about the threty feet long, and four feet in diameter at the breech, and for three weeks past men have been engaged keeping alive a flame in thebox for the purpose of heating the block, with the belief that it may be drawn out. This flame is fed by a small oil tank, with a pipe leading through a temporary plate placed in the breech, bored in several places. The block has been drawn out a couple of inches but there it sticks. A Navy officer said to-day:

I had no idea how stupidly they were working to get the block out until I learned that they were heating it from the inside. The first principals of metals show us that aron heating steel or iron it will expand, so that it seems in this case that the block was expanding more than the jacket of the gun and was consequently sticking harder instead of getting loose. The block has been stuck for about three weeks, and very little to of an expert, who knows something of the laws of expansion and contraction of metals, and bore it out. It is now proposed to follow the advice of an expert, who knows something of the laws of expansion and contraction of metals, and bore it out. The poor devil of a mechanic who was handling the block when it stuck was discharged, but the officer under whose orders he was working is still an "Inspector of Ordannee." Two young ensigns who had just come from sea and had probably never seen the inside of a machine shop before, were ordered to the sun foundry for "Ordannee Instruction" a short time ago and after about two months instruction were put on permanent duty there, and are now hispectors and are strutnance Instruction" a short time ago and after about two months instruction were put on permanent duty there, and are now inspectors and are struting around showing intelligent mechanics how to make guns. Is it any wonder that breech blocks stick and can't be got out? Another breech block, some time ago, was made so loose that it had to be condemned. Whitney ought to buy some copies of "The Workshop Amateur." "Every Man His Own Mechanic" and books of that sort and distribute them among his gun builders. With sailors building guns and sailmakers inspecting steel we ought to have a fine Navy after awhile.

#### HELPING THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT CALIFORNIANS HAVE TO MAKE UP PURSES TO AID THE POSTAL SERVICE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Special.)-A curious condition of affairs seems to exist in Southern California in regard to the postal facilities extended to that section of the country by Mr. Vilas. Congressman Van Devere, of California, says that the citizens at Los Angeles, at San Diego, at San Luis Obispo, at San Bernardino, at Pasadena, at Riverside and at other places have been compelled to supplement by private subscription the allow-ances made by the Post Office Department for ances made by the Post Office Department for postal service, and in some instances to pay the rent of the buildings in which post offices are kept and to pay gas and water hills. The inadequate force employed in these offices, he says, entails fourteen, fifteen and sixteen hours a day of service of efficient and poorly paid employes at the San Diego post office. When the newly appointed postmas r recently took possession of the office he found a great accumulation of unasorted mail matter, composed chiefly of newspapers and magazin's, encumbering the place as so much rubbish, and having no force to assert or distribute the same, he caused it to be loaded into wagons and hauled to the dump in the bay. In this way four wagon loads of mail matter were disposed of. Such a condition of affairs seems almost incredible were it not substantiated by almost incredible were it not substantiated by trustworthy witnesses. It seems as if Mr. Vilas were going to leave a Augean stable for his suc-cessor, if he is ever confirmed, to clean out.

# WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Jan. 13, 1888.

DUTTON GOLD LEAF.—Representative firyce, of New-York, presented in the House te-day a position from the gold and silver heaters of the United States, praying Congress to increase the duty on gold leaf to \$2.50 per pack of five hundred leaves, and on bronze or Dutch needs in leaf to 30 cents per non-hundred leaves, and on bronze pewder to 25 cents per pound, "so that American workmen may be analised to open up an important industry in the United States without being compelled to compete with the prison and pauper gold labor of Europe."

RAILROAD DISCRIMINATION.-The Interstate Commerce RAILROAD Discilmination.—The interstate Commerce Commission to-tay gave an oblaion in the case of Thomas J. Reynoids against the Western New-York and Pennsylvania Railroad Company and G. Clinton Gardner, receiver, wherein the defendants were ordered to desist from charging a greater price for the transportation of railroad ties from points in Pennsylvania to Salamanca and to Olsan, in the State of New-York, than is charged for the transportation of timber at the same transportation was prepared by Commission Walker.

Prepares by Commission Walker.

Naval Nork.—The training ship Portsmouth from New.

York arrived this morning. ARMY Officer. - The leave of absence granted Second Lieu tenant Henry P. McCain, 3d Infantry, November 21, has

FROM BOOKMAKING TO THE CUSTOM HOUSE. The annual billiard tournament of the bookmakers will begin a week from Monday. The entry list has fallen off considerably. Only five entries are on the sooks. Ex-Assembly man Moses Dinkelsytel will not take much interest in it. bly man Moses Dimicispiel will not take much interest in it. His divice as psymmeter in the Auditor's department of the Custom House, to which he has been appointed, will eccupy his whole attention. He was the financial manager for John Daly & Co., bookmakers, has year. Having served a term as a Democratic Assemblyman, of course he was particularly fitted for such a position, and a term of service in a book-making concern like judy's makes hun even more especially fitted to serve the means. "Herein," Administration. fitted to serve the present "Reform" Administration.

COMMODORS HARMONY'S HARMONIOUS VISIT. A published dispatch from Washington yesterday announced that Commolore Harmony, Chief of the Bureau of
Yards and Docks, had been sont post maste to the Brooklyn
Navy Yard by Secretary Whitney to investigate the recent
fire there, which, it was stated, had occurred opportunely for Pay Importor Statement's case. A Tailbung reporter made in quiries about the matter at the Navy Yard last night and was informed by Commander O Noti and other officers that Commodere Harmony came here for the sole purpose of viewing the new dock and returned to Philadelphia late in meen. He had absolutely nothing to do or say about

the fire. The Beard of Inquiry, appeinted by Admirat Ghemardi, has made a report to the Secretary of the Havy, the points of which have not yet been made public, but it is believed by maral officers in general that the beard was esti-fied that the fire was the result of acrident and that is did not affect the case of Mr. Stevenson in the least, as the ma-terials with which the recent Court of Inquiry was concerned were not in the building destroyed.

DEBATING IN THE SENATE. SENATORS TOUCH IMPORTANT TOPICS.

PAXES, REVENUE AND EDUCATION DISCUSSED. WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Among the memorials pre-sented in the Senate were several in favor of the prohibition of the liquor traffic and for a constitution amendment to that effect, and in favor of the World's Exposition in 1892.

The following bills were introduced in the Senate to-day : By Mr. HISCOCK to increase the monthly t

for loss of one hand or foot to \$30; for loss of an arm at the elbow or leg at the knee to \$56, and for loss of an arm near the shoulder or leg at the hip to \$45. By Mr. STEWART, an amendment to the bill pro-

viding for the investment of certain funds in the Treasury. It provides that any person may deposit at the mint or assay office gold or silver buillon and receive mint or assay office gold or silver builton and receive certificates therefor. The certificates are to be in denominations of not less than two, nor more than one thousand obliars, and are to be legal tenders redeemable at any treasury or sub-treasury. No gold or silver is to be coined except to meet obligations expressly made payable in coin and to meet the actual wants for silver entrency among the people. The silver coinage act is repealed.

excessive internal taxes and exceptive that allow.

Mr. VANCE proceeded, with much detail, to illustrate many of the inconsistencies in the tariff, particularly as bearing against the artiffers consumed by the poor and in favor of these consumed by the rich. He declared that the central theory of the artiff was infiguity, and that he was opposed to the whole thing. The resolution was faid aside, and the fillair Educational bill was taken up and a constitutional argument made against it by Mr. GRAY. Proceeding to criticise some details of the bill he proceeding to criticise some details of the bill he

h were directed against the experiment of serment. He also quoted instances to show to calizing influences of outside funds on common ) LAIR stated, in reply to a portion of Mr

schools.

Mr. J.LAIR stated, in reply to a portion of Mr. GRAY'S speech, that in the Southern States which contained one-third of the population of the country, only seventeen millions was estimated as being expended for school purposes as against \$103,000,000 in the whole country. The bill went over as the unfinished business and the Senate, at 4:35, adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. In the House, Mr. HATCH, of Misseuri, from the Comtions to carry into effect the provisions of the Act to eatablish experimental agricultural stations. Committee

Mr. WASHINGTON, of Tennessee, presented the peti tion of the Faculty of Yanderbilt -University asking for the removal of the tariff on Wooks. Referred. The House Committee on Indian Affairs will report

faverably Representative PERKINS'S tall providing for the sale of certain New-York Indian lands in the State of On motion of Mr. BLOUNT, of Georgia, the House pro

caeded to the consideration of the bill relating to per missible marks, writing or printing on see nd, third and ourth-class mail matter. Mr. BLOUNT briefly explained the provisions of the measure which had been recemmeaded by the Postmaster-General and walch had been rendered necessary by a recent decision of the Post Office department. He did not think that its wassage would affect the revenue of the Department, while it would undenbiedly extend a great convenience to business men. Mr. BINGHAM, of Pennsylvania, favored the bill. hough he took exception to the ruling of the Depart

though he took exception to the rading of the Department upon the permissible marks on the lower classes of mail matter. The peating bill, sowerer, wantd meet the requirements of swery interest which had been buildiously affected by that ruling. The hill was then passed and the Heuse went: the Committee of the Whele. Mr. HATCH, of Miscouri, in the chair, on the private calendar, and the afferroom was constitued in the discussions of private bills referring to cases in the Court of Claims.

Gourt of Cialma.

Mr. MORROW, of California, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs reported a joint resolution appropriating \$50,000 to enable the Government to participate in the laternational exhibition to be head at Melbeurue in April, 1888. Committee of the Whise.

Mr. CRASP, of Georgia, chairman of the Committee on

Mr. CRASP, of Georgia, chairman of the Committee en-Elections, presented a report upon the case of A. E. Red-sions, claiming to have been elected to Congress from the Fifth California district. Heuse calediar. The House adjourned until Menday after Mr. Mill.S. of Texas, had made two attempts to secure an adjust-ments that date. Joshika public meeting, presided over by Representative PEFL, of Arkansaa, Chairman of the House Committee on Indian Affairs, was held at All Souls' Church.

THE QUARRELLING REPUBLICANS IN OHIO COLUMBUS, Ohio, Jan. 13.-The Republican faction In the Ohio Senate apent all the moralny ever the journal. The caucus Republicans objected to the elimination from the journal of a part of the proceedings had last evening. which was ruled out of order by the President. The journal was finally approved by the boiling Senators with the aid of the Democrats. A portion of the members refused to vote, but they were voted present in order to make a quorum. Both branches adjourned to Thankay

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REAPER MAKERS. CRICAGO, Jan. 13.-Nineteen of the twenty-one reaper mower and binder manufacturers in the United States this evening organized a National Assacciation. They have been in session here three days. The call for the meeting defined the objects to be the curtailment of production, regulation of prices and the firing of a uniform system of prices, but the members deny that the assec-ation formed has anything to do with these matters, and say it is "for social ends sely." Lawis Miller, of Akron, Ohio, has been elected president.

RESCUING THE CREW OF A LOST SHIP. SAVANNAH, Jan. 13.-The scheoner Hattle N. Gore, from Ciark's Cove for Savannah with a cargo of guano, struck a shoal off Port Royal bar at 2p. m. on Thursday. The weather was trick with a beavy sea on, and the erew took to the rigging, whence they were rescued by the boars from Martins Industry Lightship at 11 o'clock to-day and were brought up to this city on the tug Cambria. The schooler and carge are a total loss.

FUNERAL OF LEMUEL J. CURTIS. MERIDEN, Coun., Jan. 13.—The funeral of Lemuel J. Curtis, the millionaire feunder of the Cartis Home, took place to-day and occasioned a general suspension of numbers in the factories here, is all of which he was largely interested.

UNDOUBTEDLY A SUICIDE.

MR. HOUSTON TEMPORARILY INSANE. THE CONVICTION FORCED UPON HIS PRIENDS

The causes which led to the death by suicide of Theodore Houston, the well-known milroad ex-pert and former receiver of the West Shore Railread, were the subject of much inquiry and dis custion yesterday. His friends were strongly in-clined at first to the theory of accidental shooting and sought carnestly to convince themselves and ohers that Mr. Houston did not mean to take his life. The position was soon found to be un-Coroner Nugent, who made a thorough tenable. investigation of the case, while he was decidedly not averse to view the matter as an accident, was forced to the conclusion that the preponderance of evidence was upon the side of a fully formed determination on the part of the dead man to commit suicide. It is understood that the family have reluctantly been obliged to adopt the same conclu-

st., Mr. Houston's family physician and intimate friend, said yesterday that unfortunately Mr.

friend, said yesterday that unfortunately Mr. Houston had gone about the matter with the same directness that characterized every acion of his life and had sent the bullet squarely through his head from temple to temple.

"I believe," said the Loctor, "that Mr. Houston was laboring under temporary insanity at the moment and that the effect of the shot was to bring him back to his senses. When I reached him yesterday morning, soon after the fatal act, he asked me at once the condition of his puise. I told him it was very weak. He then asked whether there was any hope for him. I was obliged to reply, 'None, whatever.' He seemed then in the full possession of his faculties, and I believe that he bitterly regietted his act."

HIS SOLICITUDE FOR HIS FAMILY.

railroad friends that the probable cause of his taking his life was the fear of pecuniary embarresoment. He had been doing little in the last two years and evidently had become despondent two years and evidently had become despondent about his personal affairs. His pride and ambition were almost illimitable. Having been receiver of the West Shore Railroad, he was disappointed that he had not been sought for an equally high position and he was too troud to confess to his friends that he was in need of assistance. He may have lost small sums in speculation, but his embarrassment was not caused by his losses. He was a fact to to have hed a herefutary predisposition to suicide which his difficulties undoubtedly aggreented. He had grown rapilly old in the last year and his intimate friends noted the change with much concern, although it had not prepared them for the disastrous end. He had shown no heef of courage in other respects and his life had been pure and stainless.

TESTIMONY THAT SHOWS HE WAS DRUNK AND

ave druggist, who was supposed to have died from the effects of a blow given by his clerk, Andreas Hahn, beran at the cerasor's office yesterday morning before Ceroner Eld First st. He said that on the morning of January 7 he was called by a servant of Mr. Biedenfeld's, who said the druggust was suffering from a pain in his right side. On arriving at the house he found. Bledenfeld in deep pain. When asked to give the cause of his trouble Biedenfeld suit: "I received a very severe blow from my clerk, Hahn, and he is my nurderer." Just before the doctor left the house Mrs. Bleden. deter." Just before the doctor left the house Mrs. Bloden-feld told him that her husband had received his injury from

tiling on a scap box during a scuttle with his clerk. Deputy Coroner Schaler testified that he made an autopay on the besty of Riedeufeld and was assisted by Professer Kor. on the bedy of minierron and was accounted by the man meet and ext Deputy Coronar Herald. He found that the man thed from peritonitis, which might have been caused by a blow or a fall. Herenfeld also had Bright's disease, but this was not the immediate cause of death. De Lerr, who was called in on Sunday afterness, corroborated the statements

of the other physicians.
Lee Petzin, the apothecary, who seemed to have been the cause of all the trouble between Riedenfeld and his wife, next took the stand. He said that he kept a drug-store at Houston and Forsyth sts. and had previously been employed other physicians. Honoton and Parkinsts, and had provided a parkinsts, as a clerk by Mr. Biodenfeld. On the night of January 7, after sharting up his own store, he went to Biodenfeld's. This was about 11 o'clock, and he remained till about 2 o'clock in the morains. Soon after he arrived a game of cards was started and the players were Biodenfeld, his wife, clork abn and his wife, the servant girl, Annie, and himself. The ank a quart of bear between them and then Biedenfeld or two bottles of wine, which were brought in. Lie since of the wine and soon after got into a quarrel with sover the carits. Bietenfeld then threw a wine-giase a wife, striking her in the breast. Becoming more it ed, he began calling his wife names. Clerk Hahn re red him, whereupon he took up a carving knife and tried at his wife. The knife was taken away from him by the ant girl. He teen seized a soap box and while quarreling the clerk fell on the floor amainst it. Biedenfeld chal. ats clerk to go out on the sidewalk and fight it out tures wout out on the side walk, but witness prevented fighting. On the evening of the following day he went ogain and remained till Bisdenfeld died.
you ever have any quarrel with anybody in this coun-

Did you ever go out walking with the wife of the dead

Pulsin on further questioning said he called as often as four times a week. Mrs. Biedenfeld had come to his store but only on business, and be met her once in the street by acci-Each time Mrs. Biedenfeld was accompanied by her

Mrs. Elra Hahn, the wife of the prisoner, told subtantially the same story. Then Annie Paff, the servan ciri is the employ of the Biedenfelds, testified that there were quartels in the house every day on account of jealousies be tween the couple. During the witness's fourteen months' service she had often seen quarrels between the two. Did you ever hold Mr. Hiedenfeld down to the floor while

his wife whipped him F asked the Coroner.
- Yes, once last summer, when he started to bent his The case was then adjourned until this morning at 10

ROBERT MORRIS'S GRANDDAUGHTER NOT IN WANT. WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Special) .- The Star to-night

prints the following:
There have then articles widely published asking assistance for a great-grandiaughter of Robert Morris in distressed circumstances. There is no legitimate descendant of Robert Merris in such condition. I am supposed to be the person alluded to, and someof my friends mave respended. With many thanks for their kindness, I assure them that, although poor, neither myself nor any of my grandfather's family are in distress.

Signed, Many Mornis Husband, Knowles, Maryland. orinis the following:

MR. BLAINE ALSO IS INTERESTED.

MR. BLAINE ALSO IS INTERESTED.

The alleged confidences that are daily published about his (Mr. Blaine's) letentions constitute as chaotic and contradictory a mess of nonsense as can be dished up it is quite probable that Mr. Blaine has a course marked out for the future, but it is just as probable that the course will depend altogether upon circumstances which belong to the future. There is me question but that he can get this Republican nomination if he wants it, but there is not the slightest fear that he will accept it if he thinks there is any danger of defeat. Upon this point it is fair to conclude that he will be more selicitous than any one else. The Republicans who

ALBANY GOSSIP.

ABOUR PROBABLE DELEGATES TO THE

NATIONAL CONVENTION. ROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE THE ALBANY, Jan. 13.—Already there is some goesip affoat about the election of delegates from this State to the Republican National Convention. This is natural; as within a comparatively few weeks the various Congressional districts in this State will begin to elect their delegates. to the convention, and in April the Republican State Convention of this State will be held to elect four dele-

There are thirty-four Congressional Districts in thi State, each of which will hold a separate convention to cleet two delegates to the National Convention. In the interior of the State these little conventions promise to nake quite a scramble among Republican politicians for the honor of going to Chicago. Conversation with the Republican members of the Legislature shows that there is a general belief among them that Senators Evarts and Hiscock will be two of the four delegates at large from this State to the National Convention. The friends of ex Senator Warner Miller say that he will go as a delegate from the Herkimer Congressional District. In this case it is said that Congressman David Wilber will be the other delegate from the district. The Republicans from Westchester County say that

is a sixtee on the previous of Ainternatives the time fail to great facility of the record has a facility regret to the fail of the record has a facility regret to the record of the re Senator William H. Robertson and ex-Speaker James W. Husted are likely to be the delogates from that district. Coming up to the XVIth Congressional District, com-

There is no convention gossip from the other Cougressional Districts the one reaches the XXIst District,
which emerices within its borders the countries of Livingston, Genesce, Orleans and Wyoming, Ex-Senator
Edmind L. Puts, who represented this district at the
Chicago National Convention of 1884, said hast week: "I
don't know who will go from the district, but I do know
this—that whoever goes has got to be a red-hot Blaine
man. The district may be said to be unanimously for
Mr. Blaine."

Mr. Blaine."

The friends of O. G. Warren, Editor of "The Banalo Commercial," who were here a few days ago, and that they anomid push him for the position of a delegate from one of the Buffalo Congressional Districts. Mr. Warren's falles, the late James D. Warren, was the leader of the Arthur delegates at the National Republican Convention of 1884.

A COLORADO VIEW OF CLEVELAND.

A COLORADO VIEW OF CLEVELAND.

16ts something over a year ago that John Arkens, of Don van the prosperous and curly-headed proprieter of The Rocky Jameless News, white on a visit to New-York after having paid his respects at the White House, described President Cleveland as a man with more stomach and neck than head and brains. Mr. Arkens is back again in New-York. New as then he is here to buy presses for his rapidly increasing business, and like & Co. will be enriched by a good-sized check with his always and deliver, him a new pross. When political's mentioned, however, there is a subdued air about Mr. Arkens and the tone of his voice is apathetic. He is anxious to have the Democratic National Convention called in this State, in the hope that the dor-mant Hill element may come up and defeat Cleveland's nomi

"if Mr. Cleveland is nominated I want to see him elected of course," he said yesterday. "He is better than a Republi-can would be in that place—a very little better. We get an occasional downright earnest Democrat in office, in spite of his dislike of politicians and fondness for giving places to everybody and anyhody except the real workers."
"How will Colorado's delegation stand?"
"It will be made up of anti-Clereland men but as things

stand now he will receive their support in the convention.

There is no opposition anywhere to his renomination. The whole thing has caved in. He seems the lucklest man that was ever horn. It doesn't seem possible to him to de any thing that will injure him politically. His message may do it But the rebel flag order didn't. Neither does it appear that the Lamar nomination has hurt him. It makes the South solid by keeping up the 'bloody shirt' cry."
"How will Colorado cast her electoral vote "

Oh, for Blame by 10,000 majority. He will be the Repub licon candidate beyond question. The West and the Pacific Coast are for him. If he comes back to this country by way of San Francisco the Pacific Coast and the Rocky Monatain people will go wild over him. His coming will set things on fire out West."

PESTIVITIES AT THE NAVY YARD.

The first Navy Yard ball of the season was given last night under the auspices of Mrs. James O'Neil and the might under the auspices of air, James Among those wives of other officers stationed at the yard. Among those present were Admiral and Mrs. Gherardt, Constructor Pook and Miss Pook, Captain Bunce, of the Atlanta; Captain Cooke, Commander H. W. Lyon, of the Trenton; Captain and Mrs. Robeson, Commander and Mrs. O'Neil, Paylian and Mrs. Robeson, Commander and Mrs. O'Neil, Paylinspector Stevenson and his wife, Captain Rausay, of the loston: Lieutenant Commander Kaox, Lientenant R. M. G. Boston: Lieutenant Commander & and, Electronic & Mrs. Van Nos-trand, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, Miss McCeney, of Washing-ton: Chief Engineer Whatton, of the Trenton; Miss Whar-ton, Lieuteant Commander J. A. H. Nichels, of the Chicago,

# IT SAVED MY LIFE.

Mr. E. D. Parsons, a well-known bookkeeper for S. J. Arnold & Co., of Roddester, N. Y., writes:
I scarcely realized what sickness means, until one day I scarcely realized what sickness means, until one day I came a seized with a pain in the lower part of my back. Next came a stopparse of the fluw of urine, and cast pain accompanied the passage of the fluid. Alarmed, I sought, salve, and was told that my symptoms were those of Stone in the Biadder. My Kidneys were Affected.

I will not tey to dearribe what I wont through Let it suffice that none of themesan taken predicted any leading benefit natil I began the two of Dr. Davis Kennety's Pavoribe itemedy, of itemated, "Y. Gradwally the more serious aymptoms begant of the present more freely, be cannot also be a sufficient to food. The sensitive strunch began to aymptoms begant of the arise in present more freely, be cannot digest the food. The arise may recovery was rapid and permanent, and I am rever in public of in private to testify that Dr. David Kennedy's Favorite Rumety a rot any life.

Dr. D. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy, Bondout, N. Y. All Druggista - \$1; Stor \$6.

WEATHER PROPHETS AT ODDS

A LUDICROUS BLUNDER YESTERDAY. SIGNAL SERVICE INSPECTOR SAYS MORE GUMP-

TION AND LESS SCIENC ARE XE B 1.

"Warmer, fair," was the prediction sent out by
the Signal Service in regard to the weather of yesterday. The manner in which the prophecy was not fulfilled was remarkable. Seldom have innocent and trustful people been worse beguiled than New-Yorkers who arose in the morning and beheld, not blue skies and elean streets, but non pouring down upon snow four inches deep, rapidly converting it into slush and a thick haze of fog enveloping earth and sky, and making mutters

ttill more unpl-neant.
The snow began to fall about 1 o'clock yesterday morning and continued stendily until 9 o'clock, by which time the temperature had risen from 26 degrees to 34, and the snow gave place to rain. The gutters were rapidly surcharged with volumes of water that rushed down the streets like rivers, and the sewer system was taxed to its atmost to carry off the flood. Some of the downtown streets were actually under water. The Street Cleaning Department worked with a will. Two hundred and fifty carts had just been ordered out to remove the snow when the rain came on, and they were recalled.

The rain certainly did the work of removing the snow most effectually, but it made the streets for a time almost impossable. Superintendent Green, of the Street Cleaning Department, sent his whole available force to clean out gutters, culverts and crossings. But, hard as they toiled, they could not prevent some of the gutters from becoming choked and the slush from washing over the sidewalks. At several places the gutters had to be bridged with boards so that walkers might

the sidewalks. At several places the gutters had to be bridged with boards so that walkers might cross them. The rain, the muggy, fog-laden atmosphere, and the swamped streets made such a combination as New-York fortunately does not often experience. Everyone who had to be abroad regarded the situation with mingled feelings, and the people who pin their faith to the weather predictions thirsted for satisfaction from the Signal Service Bureau.

The unfortunate street car horses fared miserably. On the Third Avenue line they were running double teams, but even with these the service was slow and uncomfortable. The poor horses stumbled and fell frequently. The clevated trains were more than usually overcrowded, as a great many were compelled to take them on account of the slow and much interrupted running of the street cars. Traffic on the railroads was considerably delayed and the incoming mails from all quarters were from one to three hours late. A Thisonereporter who called at the Signal Service Bureau in the Equitable Building, found Lieutenent Walshe there making his annual inspection. When the reporter asked him why the weather prediction for the day was so far astray, he said:

"It is a bad mistake. The reason is that the man now in charge of that branch of the service at Washington is too much of a scientist and too little of a weather observer. Unless a man spends a long apprenticeship learning the details of weather conditions all over the United States, he will fail in making predictions, no matter how good a scientist he may be. The general rule that will apply in one place won't apply in another. A prediction like that sent for to-day does more narm than one might suppose. It is a real hardable to a large proportion of the public."

"What is the prediction for to-night and to-morrow?"

"Warner, fair weather, followed by snow. Fresh to brisk winds increasing in force, heach.

morrow?"
"Warmer, fair weather, followed by snow," "Warmer, fair weather, followed by snow. Fresh to brisk winds increasing in force, becohing southerly. Now I am going to take issue with the Washington man about that prediction, too. I say that it will be colder to-morrow. There is a cold wave coming. I hardly think there will be any snow till 3 o'clock. We may get some during the night, though. The winds, instead of southerly will be northwesterly. The cold wave is coming from the northwest.

Nearly all cold waves come down accompanied.

Nearly all cold waves come down accompanied by an area of high pressure in the northwest. In fact we never get a cold wave without a high barometer. The cold yesterday and the day be-fore was owing to the area of high barometer over New-York State then; but it has moved now into the Gulf of St. Lawrence."

The highest temperature reached in this city yesterday was 46 degrees. Here are some other temperatures reported: Chicago, 2 degrees below zero; Boston, 34 degrees above; Buffalo, 34; Cleveland, 34; Albany, 32; Milwaukee, 2 degrees below; Philadelphia, 42 degrees above; Helena, Mont., 24 degrees below; Lacrosse, 4 degrees below; St. Paul, 16 degrees below.

WILL THEY LOSE THEIR MONEY? THE ITALIAN COLONY BADLY SCARED. DEPOSITORS OF THE "DANCO REPGAMENT" THINK

THEY WILL NEVER SEE THEIR SAVINGS. A portion of the Italian population in this city is enraged. The maledictions heaped upon the late Emilliano P. Bergamini by the Neapolitans, fruit-stand Little Italy," Crosby-st., the "Mulberry Bend" and posited their savings in the now closed "Banco Berg-amini," No. 15 Centre-st., are almost loud and strong over in his grave. Since Bergamini died, and was out. Consternation took possession of the depositors when they did not receive their money. Some of them, however, keep up hope of at least a partial recovery of their funds, for the people at the bank have given excuses for temporarily shutting up the place and declare that the depositors will be paid in full. but many stated yesterday that they were forced to beleve that they would never get a cent of their money

back. Bergamini had conducted his banking business during the last nine years at No. 15 Centre-st. He on December 23, and the crowd that usually gathered around the place was never larger than it was on the following day, when all interested made rapid strides for their money. They did not get it. They have not got it yet, and there is a padlock on the door. These are the salient facts that the depositors take to heart, and the assurance given them that when a relative of the dead man is heard from in Italy the business will be resumed, does not seem to comfort the

hot-blooded sons of Italy.

Frank Faretti, an Italian who has lived from carry. boyhood in the downtown district, and has known Bergsmini for several years and has talked with several of the depositors, told the story as follows:

Bergamini was a smart pushing man who acted as an interpreter around the courts before he started his bank, carning a dollar wherever he could just like any other poor man. He was an easy-going fellow who did not make enemies and he built up a larger business than many people imagined right there in that basement. He must have been worth between \$200,000 and \$300,000 when he died, if it is true that the bank had about \$150,000 on deposit when it closed, as the cashler Pietro Andreoll says. Bergamini put his money largely into real estate, and the profits on his money-changing and brokerage business must

trand Mrs. Leenard, Miss McCeney, of Washington; Chief Engineer Whaton, of the Trenton; Miss Warrows, Chief Engineer Whaton, Chief Engineer Whaton, Chief Engineer Whaton, Chief Engineer Water Chief Chi

will is admitted to probate and such the way to exceed any money. The delay is necessary, it was said, eause the absent hely had not been beard town y fir. Marsh had voluntarily given up the cast six Dergamini's death, as there was a conflict in the wish and expectations of the help. F. A. Burnham. No. 350 Canal st., is the lawyer in charge at prese

DEMANDING SOCIALISTIC LEGISLATION. PRORIA, III., Jan. 12.-Tue Illinois Federation of Trade adopted a platform this evening calling for the enactment of various laws, among them one providing

for the protection of co-operative associations as dis-tinguished from these governing joint stock companies; another providing that all pupils attending the public schools shall be furnished with all books and other artichools shall be furnissed with all boost and since are else necessary to their education and training at the ex-pense of the State, and that the science of government be taught in the public schools. The enactment of a law to compal the arbitration of difficulties between sea-pleyers and employers is demanded; also one to prelimit putting children to work fluder fourteen years. Aboli-tion of all State compilarse laws, of the contract system, and enforcement of the Eight-hour law also demanded.